

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A housing for a computer system, the housing comprising:
2 a storage compartment including:
3 a body having an interior, a bottom and a sidewall that define the
4 interior, and a passage operable to allow an item disposed
5 within the interior to be communicatively coupled to another
6 item outside the interior; and
7 a lid.
- 1 2. The housing of claim 1 wherein the interior is sized to retain a PDA.
- 1 3. The housing of claim 1 wherein the interior is sized to hold storage media.
- 1 4. The housing of claim 1 wherein the sidewall includes the passage.
- 1 5. The housing of claim 1 wherein the storage compartment includes a coupling
2 element operable to couple the lid to the sidewall.
- 1 6. The housing of claim 1 wherein the storage compartment includes a locking
2 element operable to retain the lid in a closed position.
- 1 7. The housing of claim 1 wherein:
2 the housing further comprises a conduit having an opening; and
3 the passage opens to the conduit's opening.
- 1 8. A housing for a computer system, the housing comprising:
2 a storage compartment including:
3 a body having an interior, a bottom and a sidewall that define the
4 interior, and
5 a lid having an opening operable to allow access to an item
6 disposed within the interior.
- 1 9. The housing of claim 8 wherein the interior is sized to retain a camera
2 docking station, and when a camera is coupled to the docking station, the
3 camera protrudes through the opening.

- 1 10. A computer system comprising:
2 a housing having a storage compartment to retain an item and including:
3 a body having an interior, a bottom and a sidewall that define the
4 interior, and a passage operable to allow an item disposed
5 within the interior to be communicatively coupled to another
6 item outside the interior; and
7 a lid.
- 1 11. A computer system comprising:
2 a housing having a storage compartment to retain an item and including:
3 a body having an interior, a bottom and a sidewall that define the
4 interior, and
5 a lid having an opening operable to allow an item disposed within
6 the interior to protrude through the opening.
- 1 12. A method for storing an item, the method comprising:
2 placing an item in an interior of a storage compartment that includes a lid
3 and a body having a bottom and a sidewall that define the interior;
4 extending a cable from the exterior of the storage compartment through a
5 passage in the body; and
6 coupling the cable to the item in the interior.
- 1 13. The method of claim 12 wherein extending a cable from the exterior of the
2 storage compartment includes extending the cable through an opening of a
3 conduit.
- 1 14. The method of claim 12 further comprising closing the lid.
- 1 15. The method of claim 12 further comprising:
2 closing the lid, and
3 supporting another item on the lid.
- 1 16. A method for storing an item, the method comprising:

2 placing an item in an interior of a storage compartment that includes a lid
3 having an opening, and a body having a bottom and a sidewall that
4 define the interior;
5 inserting another item through the opening; and
6 coupling the items together.